

Project Profile Working Landscape



Garden Bar Preserve

Garden Bar Preserve is a 912-acre oak woodland preserve on the Bear River in Placer County, protected by conservation easement held by Placer Land Trust. The Garden Bar preserve is a key piece of a strategic landscape-scale effort to provide important north-south and east-west wildlife corridors and the connection of over 6,000 acres of preserved land. The preserve protects agricul-

tural productivity, water quality, wildlife habitat, and Native American cultural resources.

The continued use of the property for livestock grazing, including cattle and American bison, assists in the proper management of the land by reducing invasive plants and dangerous fuel loads. The preserve includes over a mile of Bear River frontage and two miles of tributary streams. The preserve affords water quality protection by providing a healthy environment for riparian habitat and wildlife habitat; allowing for the natural filtration of water and avoidance of erosion and sedimentation from soil disturbances. The best non-vehicular river crossing for 90 miles in either direction is found on the property. The crossing was an important gathering and trading site for the Martis, Maidu, and Nisenan Tribes, as well as an important location in recent Gold Rush history.

The landowner is working with the Nevada County Land Trust, the Bear-Yuba Partnership, and State agencies to protect 650 acres of adjacent companion lands across the Bear River in Nevada County.

Funds for the acquisition and stewardship of the conservation easement were provided by the California Wildlife Foundation.

